

## Flathead County Count of Persons by Age, Race, and Gender

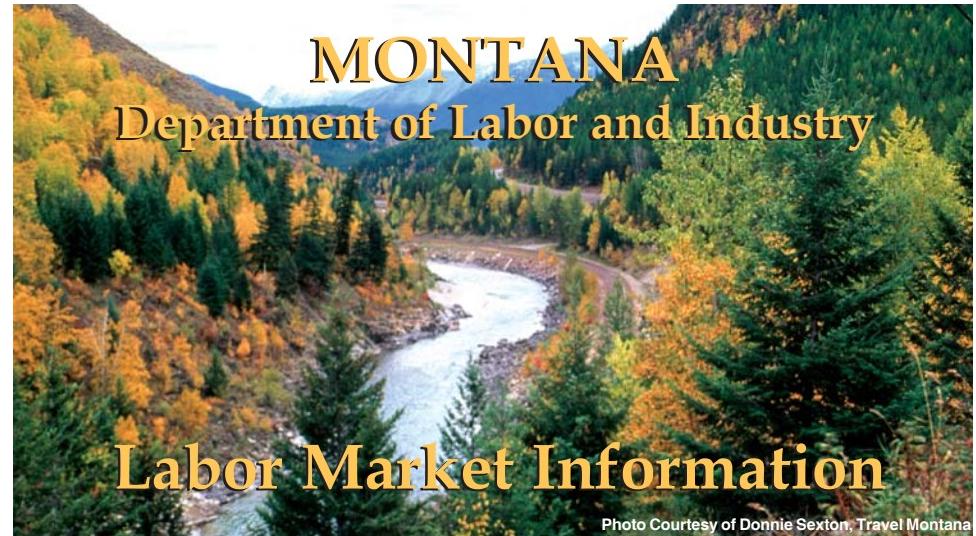
		American Indian & Alaska Native		Asian Alone & Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Alone		Two or More Races		Hispanic or Latino of any Race	
School Age	White Alone	Black Alone	Alone	Islander Alone					
5 to 9	Total Female	Total Female	23	8	60	31	41	24	129
10 to 14	4,543	2,224	20	9	87	45	41	18	66
15 to 19	5,453	2,706	16	6	79	37	30	16	128
20 to 24	5,621	2,704	28	11	71	32	34	14	123
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,777</b>	<b>10,181</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>465</b>
									<b>233</b>
									<b>484</b>
									<b>246</b>
		American Indian & Alaska Native		Asian Alone & Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Alone		Two or More Races		Hispanic or Latino of any Race	
Working Age	White Alone	Black Alone	Alone	Islander Alone					
15+	62,313	31,545	139	59	734	365	361	215	754
15-64	51,986	25,898	133	55	674	329	321	187	689
20+	56,692	28,841	123	53	655	328	331	199	631
20-64	46,365	23,194	117	49	595	292	291	171	566
<b>Total</b>	<b>62,313</b>	<b>31,545</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>734</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>754</b>
									<b>395</b>
									<b>952</b>
									<b>481</b>
		American Indian & Alaska Native		Asian Alone & Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Alone		Two or More Races		Hispanic or Latino of any Race	
Other Age Group	White Alone	Black Alone	Alone	Islander Alone					
0 to 4	4,414	2,174	14	3	80	40	34	25	117
5 to 19	15,617	7,634	59	23	226	113	112	58	380
20 to 44	24,301	12,208	89	38	347	171	171	89	346
45 to 64	22,064	10,986	28	11	248	121	120	82	220
65+	10,327	5,647	6	4	60	36	40	28	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>76,723</b>	<b>38,649</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>1,128</b>
									<b>582</b>
									<b>1,306</b>
									<b>661</b>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2003 Population Estimates.  
Compiled by: Research & Analysis Bureau.

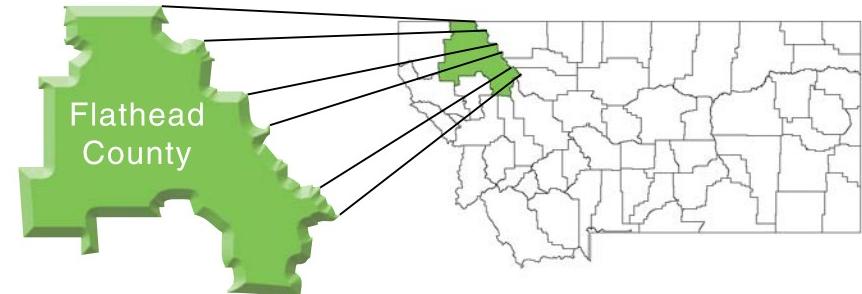
## Top 20 Private Employers in Flathead County Listed in Alphabetical Order

Brendan House Skilled Nursing	Immanuel Lutheran Home	Schellinger Construction
Century Tel	Kalispell Regional Medical Center	Semitool Inc.
Columbia Falls Aluminum	L C Staffing Service	Smith's Food & Drug
Daily Inter Lake	National Flood Services	Super 1 Foods
Flathead Electric	North Valley Hospital	Wal-Mart
Glacier Bank	Plum Creek Timber Co.	Workplace Inc.
Home Depot	Rocky Mountain Contractors	

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau  
Third Quarter 2004 Unemployment Insurance Information. This list includes ONLY private industry employers subject to Unemployment Insurance. Railroads and city, county, state, and federal government agencies (including public school districts and universities) are excluded.



## For Flathead County



### Cities and Towns in Flathead County

Apgar ■ Bigfork ■ Columbia Falls ■ Coram  
 Creston ■ Essex ■ Hungry Horse ■ Kalispell ■ Kila  
 Lake McDonald ■ Lakeside ■ Marion ■ Martin City  
 Olney ■ Polebridge ■ Somers ■ West Glacier ■ Whitefish



**RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU**  
WORKFORCE SERVICES DIVISION  
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY

For the most current county-by-county information, visit our website at  
[www.ourfactsyourfuture.org](http://www.ourfactsyourfuture.org)

June 2005



# Flathead County

Located in northwestern Montana, Flathead County is Montana's third most populous with 81,217 residents, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2004 estimates. Kalispell, the county seat, is the state's seventh largest city with a population of 16,391, according to the 2003 estimates.

Kalispell is the trade center of northwest Montana and renowned for its Flathead cherries and Christmas tree farms. It's also a gateway to Glacier National Park and located between the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, Montana's largest, and the Flathead Indian Reservation.

The 2003 Employment by Industry table (inside) shows that the government, private health care, manufacturing, and retail trade sectors are important to the area economy. Overall, Flathead County's economy is balanced between all sectors with no sector providing the most significant employment and wages, compared to other largely populated areas like Helena, with state government being the most significant employer, Great Falls with Malmstrom Air Force Base, and Missoula and Bozeman with the major universities.

The county has a strong tourism draw, mainly because of Glacier National Park and Flathead Lake, the largest natural, freshwater lake in the western United States. However, the area employment is not heavily dependent on these tourism draws. For more information on tourism's impact on Montana's economy, go to the Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research website at: <http://www.itrr.umt.edu/>.

Agriculture is also important to the area's economy. Flathead County is fourth in Montana for the largest number of total farms and ranches: 1,075 (see inside table). According to the 2002 Census of Agriculture, Flathead County is number one in Montana in value of sales of nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod products, and number two in sales for cut Christmas trees and short rotation, woody crops.

Manufacturing shows strong employment with 10 percent of the total private employment, compared to six percent statewide. About half of the manufacturing jobs are in wood products. Government employment is not as significant in Flathead County as it is statewide. Only about 13 percent of the workforce is in government employment, compared to 20 percent statewide.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, median income for Flathead County households in 2002 was \$36,159, compared to Montana's median income of \$34,105 for the same year. Median income is the average per household income in the county (no matter how many people live in the home); per capita income (inside table) is total income in the county divided by the number of people in the county.

## Flathead County Population Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Area	7/1/2004	7/1/2003	7/1/2002	4/1/2000	4/1/1990	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Census	Census	2003-2004	Change	2002-2003	Change	2000-2004	1990-2000
Montana	926,865	917,621	910,372	902,195	799,065	1.0%	0.8%	2.7%	1.7%	12.9%	
Flathead County	81,217	79,485	77,441	74,471	59,218	2.2%	2.6%	9.1%	6.7%	25.8%	
Columbia Falls	NA	3,963	3,837	3,645	3,098	NA	3.3%	NA	8.7%	17.7%	
Kalispell	NA	16,391	15,576	14,223	11,917	NA	5.2%	NA	15.2%	19.4%	
Whitefish	NA	5,784	5,517	5,032	4,368	NA	4.8%	NA	14.9%	15.2%	

## Flathead County Commuters by Location

County of Residence	# Who Work in Flathead County	County of Work	# Who Live in Flathead County
Out of State	146	Out of State	489
Cascade County	15	Cascade County	7
Deer Lodge County	8	Deer Lodge County	5
Flathead County	32,956	Flathead County	32,956
Gallatin County	18	Glacier County	16
Hill County	16	Lake County	160
Lake County	899	Lewis & Clark County	70
Lewis & Clark County	25	Lincoln County	85
Lincoln County	159	Missoula County	135
Missoula County	73	Park County	17
Ravalli County	28	Powell County	9
Roosevelt County	4	Sanders County	24
Sanders County	13	Toole County	30
Other Montana Counties	13	Valley County	6
		Yellowstone County	19
		Other Montana Counties	17

Source: 2000 U.S. Census Bureau Data.

## Summary of Major Occupational Categories By Gender 2000 Census-Equal Employment Opportunity Data Employed Person 16 Years and Older-Flathead County

Occupation	Total	Male	Female
<i>Total</i>	34,680	18,896	15,784
<i>Management, professional, and related occupations:</i>	9,777	4,701	5,076
<i>Management, business, and financial operations occupations:</i>	3,747	2,180	1,567
Management, except farmers and farm managers	2,398	1,408	990
Farmers and farm managers	338	287	51
Business and financial operations occupations:	1,011	485	526
<i>Professional and related occupations:</i>	6,030	2,521	3,509
Education, training, and library occupations	1,801	500	1,301
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations:	1,517	376	1,141
<i>Service occupations:</i>	5,452	1,895	3,557
Protective service occupations:	366	322	44
Food preparation and serving related occupations	2,105	796	1,309
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	1,180	542	638
Personal care and service occupations	1,085	178	907
<i>Sales and office occupations:</i>	9,031	2,987	6,044
Sales and related occupations	4,477	2,314	2,163
Office and administrative support occupations	4,554	673	3,881
<i>Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations</i>	658	524	134
<i>Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations:</i>	4,440	4,317	123
<i>Construction and extraction occupations:</i>	2,787	2,690	97
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	1,653	1,627	26
<i>Production, transportation, and material moving occupations:</i>	5,322	4,472	850
Production occupations	2,805	2,261	544
Motor vehicle operators	1,153	1,033	120
Material moving workers	1,102	946	156

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Equal Employment Opportunity File, [www.census.gov/eeo](http://www.census.gov/eeo) 2001.



## Montana Department of Labor & Industry's Research & Analysis Bureau



For information on employment by industry, new businesses, labor market information, job projections, and hourly pay by occupation, contact our office at:

P.O. Box 1728 Helena, MT 59624  
Phone: (406) 444-2430/Fax: (406) 444-2638 Toll Free: (800) 541-3904

Or check out our website at:

[www.ourfactsyourfuture.org](http://www.ourfactsyourfuture.org)

Be sure to check our location quotients for Flathead County on the website. Location quotients are a measure of the concentration of an industry's employment in Flathead County relative to the nation as a whole. A location quotient greater than 1 generally indicates that the industry is more concentrated in Flathead County than in the nation as a whole, while a location quotient less than 1 indicates it is less concentrated in Flathead County than in the nation as a whole.

### Flathead County Farms and Ranches

<b>Total Farms and Ranches</b>	<b>1,075</b>
Oilseed & Grain Farming	79
Vegetable & Melon Farming	15
Fruit & Tree Nut Farming	25
Greenhouse, Nursery & Floriculture Production	57
Sugar Beets, Hay & All Other Crops	341
Beef Cattle Ranching & Farming	186
Cattle Feedlots	25
Dairy Cattle & Milk Production	7
Hog & Pig Farming	10
Poultry & Egg Production	21
Sheep & Goat Farming	14
Animal Aquaculture & Other Animal Production	295

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2002 Census of Agriculture.

### Resources

#### Census and Economic Information for Montana:

Census and Economic Information Center, Montana Department of Commerce, P. O. Box 200505, Helena, MT 59620-0505, 406-841-2740 or check out the Internet website at: <http://ceic.commerce.mt.gov/>

#### Chambers of Commerce:

Bigfork Chamber, P. O. Box 237, Bigfork, MT 59911, 406-837-5888, <http://www.bigfork.org>  
Columbia Falls Chamber, P. O. Box 312, Columbia Falls, MT 59912, 406-892-2072, <http://www.columbiafallschamber.com>

Kalispell Chamber, 15 Depot Park, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-758-2800, <http://www.kalispellchamber.com>  
Lakeside-Somers Chamber, P. O. Box 177, Lakeside, MT 59922, 406-844-3715, <http://www.lakesidesomers.org>  
Whitefish Chamber, 520 E. 2nd St., Whitefish, MT 59937, 406-862-3501, <http://www.whitefishchamber.org>

#### Department of Labor and Industry:

Flathead Job Service Workforce Center  
427 1st Ave. E., Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-758-6200, <http://jsd.dli.mt.gov/local/kalispell/>

#### Economic Development:

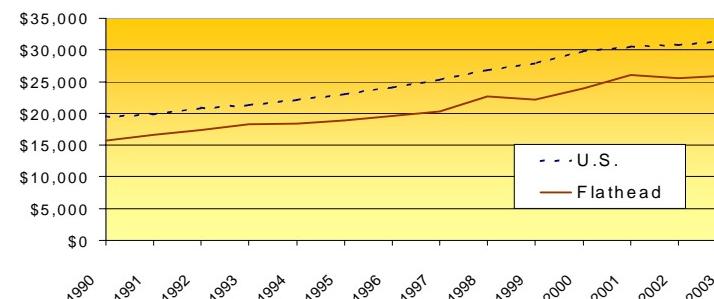
City of Kalispell Community Development Department, P. O. Box 1997, Kalispell, MT 59903, 406-758-7740

## Flathead County Annual Average Labor Force

Year	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
2004	41,822	39,338	2,484	5.9%
2003	41,452	38,965	2,487	6.0%
2002	40,818	38,609	2,209	5.4%
2001	40,957	38,642	2,315	5.7%
2000	37,713	35,452	2,261	6.0%

Source: These estimates are provisional estimates produced by the U.S. Department of Labor's, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and will be revised further in 2005.

### Flathead County Per Capita Personal Income



Year	U.S.	Flathead County	% of National Average	Year	U.S.	Flathead County	% of National Average
2003	\$31,472	\$25,981	83%	1996	\$24,175	\$19,574	81%
2002	\$30,804	\$25,578	83%	1995	\$23,076	\$18,931	82%
2001	\$30,575	\$26,071	85%	1994	\$22,172	\$18,428	83%
2000	\$29,847	\$24,001	80%	1993	\$21,346	\$18,339	86%
1999	\$27,939	\$22,164	79%	1992	\$20,854	\$17,403	83%
1998	\$26,883	\$22,678	84%	1991	\$19,892	\$16,563	83%
1997	\$25,334	\$20,320	80%	1990	\$19,477	\$15,724	81%

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Information System. Released September 2004.

#### Newspapers:

Bigfork Eagle, P. O. Box 406, Bigfork, MT 59911, 406-837-5131, [http://www.bigforkeagle.com/](http://www.bigforkeagle.com)  
Hungry Horse News, P. O. Box 189, Columbia Falls, MT 59912, 406-892-2151, <http://www.hungryhorsenews.com/>  
The Daily Inter Lake, 727 E. Idaho St., Kalispell, MT 59904, 406-755-7000, <http://www.dailyinterlake.com/>  
Whitefish Pilot, P. O. Box 488, Whitefish, MT 59937, 406-862-3505, <http://www.whitefishpilot.com/>

#### Public Libraries:

Bigfork Branch Library, 525 Electric Ave., Bigfork, MT 59911-0472, 406-837-6976  
Columbia Falls Branch Library, 130 6th St. W. #C, Columbia Falls, MT 59912-3609, 406-892-5919  
Flathead County Library, 247 1st Ave. E., Kalispell, MT 59901-4598, 406-758-5820  
Marion Branch Library, 205 Gopher Lane, Marion, MT 59925-1048, 406-854-2333  
Whitefish Branch Library, 9 Spokane Ave., Whitefish, MT 59937-2551, 406-862-6657

#### Postsecondary Education Institution:

Community College  
Flathead Valley Community College, 777 Grandview Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-756-3822, <http://www.fvcc.edu/>

Flathead Job Service Workforce Center Business Consultants, 427 1st Ave. E., Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-758-6200  
 Jobs Now & the Flathead Economic Development Authority, 490 W. Reserve Dr., Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-257-7711  
 Kalispell Chamber Small Business Development Center (SBDC), 15 Depot Park, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-758-2802  
 Northwest Business Center, 218 Main St., Kalispell, MT 59904, 406-758-5410  
 Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), 2 Main St., Suite 203, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-756-5271

### Housing Costs:

Northwest Montana Association of REALTORS®, 110 Cooperative Way, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-752-4197

### Internet:

Montana Workforce Services home page for job listings at <http://jsd.dli.mt.gov/>  
 For information on the Internet about the cities and towns of Apgar, Bigfork, Columbia Falls, Coram, Creston, Essex, Hungry Horse, Kalispell, Kila, Lakeside, Marion, Martin City, Olney, Polebridge, Somers, West Glacier, and Whitefish, go to <http://www.visitmt.com> and click on "cities and towns."

### Montana Motor Vehicle Division:

#### Drivers' Licensing

Kalispell—1325 Highway 2 W., 406-257-2128

### Flathead County Public Schools, Kindergarten through 12th Grade:

Bigfork Public Schools, P. O. Box 188, Bigfork, MT 59911, 406-837-7400  
 Cayuse Prairie Elementary, 897 Lake Blaine Road, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-756-4561  
 Columbia Falls Public Schools, P. O. Box 1259, Columbia Falls, MT 59912, 406-892-6550  
 Creston Elementary, 4495 Montana 35, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-755-2859  
 Deer Park Elementary, 2105 Middle Road, Columbia Falls, MT 59912, 406-892-5388  
 Evergreen Elementary, 18 W. Evergreen Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-751-1111  
 Fair-Mont-Egan Elementary, 797 Fairmont Road, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-755-7072  
 Helena Flats Elementary, 1000 Helena Flats Road, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-257-2301  
 Kalispell Public Schools, 233 1st Ave. E., Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-751-3434  
 Kila Elementary, P. O. Box 40, Kila, MT 59920, 406-257-2428  
 Marion Elementary, 205 Gopher Lane, Marion, MT 59925, 406-854-2333  
 Olnay-Bissell Elementary, 5955 Farm To Market Road, Whitefish, MT 59937, 406-862-2828  
 Pleasant Valley Elementary, 7975 Pleasant Valley Road, Marion, MT 59925, 406-858-2447  
 Smith Valley Elementary, 600 Batavia Lane, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-756-4535  
 Somers Elementary, P. O. Box 159, Somers, MT 59932, 406-857-3661  
 Swan River Elementary, 1205 Swan Highway, Bigfork, MT 59911, 406-837-4528  
 West Glacier Elementary, P. O. Box 309, West Glacier, MT 59936, 406-888-5312  
 West Valley Elementary, 2290 Farm To Market Road, Kalispell, MT 59901, 406-755-7239

## Flathead County Employment by Industry\*

### Annual Averages 2004

Industry	# of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Paid	Industry	# of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Paid
<b>TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES</b>	4101	35707	\$974,650,510	<b>TRANSPORTATION AND WAREHOUSING</b>	130	684	\$19,569,324
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	3986	31225	\$825,014,607	Air transportation	8	66	\$1,943,610
<b>AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHING &amp; HUNTING</b>	101	382	\$14,626,908	Truck transportation	79	347	\$9,995,543
Crop production	15	84	\$3,564,830	Transit and ground passenger transport	14	41	\$344,693
Animal production	7	23	\$553,043	Scenic and sightseeing transportation	5	19	\$431,822
Forestry and logging	62	250	\$10,045,089	Support activities for transportation	16	87	\$2,463,109
Agriculture & forestry support	17	25	\$463,946	Couriers and messengers	7	99	\$3,538,432
<b>MINING</b>	18	190	\$7,669,239	<b>INFORMATION</b>	76	633	\$21,451,485
Mining, except oil and gas	13	185	\$7,464,095	Publishing industries, except Internet	16	222	\$6,563,306
<b>UTILITIES</b>	9	193	\$9,845,836	Broadcasting, except Internet	5	55	\$1,648,000
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	743	3090	\$97,117,055	Telecommunications	26	191	\$8,670,436
Construction of buildings	271	836	\$24,359,662	ISPs, search portals, & data processing	14	108	\$3,746,538
Heavy and civil engineering construction	54	552	\$22,198,186	<b>FINANCE AND INSURANCE</b>	200	1510	\$60,895,356
Specialty trade contractors	417	1702	\$50,559,207	Credit intermediation & related activity	77	907	\$34,968,840
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>	186	3086	\$119,018,081	Securities, comm. contracts, investments	34	68	\$5,472,303
Food manufacturing	14	174	\$4,062,905	Insurance carriers & related activities	88	534	\$20,452,773
Beverage and tobacco product mfg	4	16	\$199,331	<b>REAL ESTATE AND RENTAL AND LEASING</b>	205	663	\$15,555,747
Textile mills	4	12	\$340,942	Real estate	169	394	\$10,920,613
Textile product mills	3	11	\$124,382	<b>PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES</b>	358	1143	\$37,428,646
Leather and allied product manufacturing	4	5	\$133,173	<b>MANAGEMENT OF COMPANIES AND ENTERPRISES</b>	11	92	\$4,487,428
Wood product manufacturing	36	1517	\$64,136,377	<b>ADMINISTRATIVE AND WASTE SERVICES</b>	207	1942	\$38,691,675
Printing and related support activities	17	112	\$2,306,681	Administrative and support services	196	1873	\$36,993,813
Chemical manufacturing	5	38	\$840,050	Waste management and remediation service	12	69	\$1,697,862
Nonmetallic mineral product mfg	5	88	\$2,701,774	<b>EDUCATIONAL SERVICES</b>	29	343	\$7,805,734
Primary metal manufacturing	7	216	\$9,815,572	<b>HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE</b>	304	4056	\$128,496,123
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	30	114	\$3,425,949	Ambulatory health care services	203	1313	\$53,625,930
Computer and electronic product mfg	4	36	\$1,125,404	Hospitals	3	1426	\$50,243,437
Furniture and related product mfg	24	92	\$2,589,770	Nursing and residential care facilities	21	893	\$18,796,486
Miscellaneous manufacturing	17	34	\$615,551	Social assistance	78	424	\$5,830,270
<b>WHOLESALE TRADE</b>	121	850	\$26,447,940	<b>ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND RECREATION</b>	115	1054	\$14,447,380
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	70	463	\$14,940,889	Performing arts and spectator sports	19	87	\$1,493,484
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	33	339	\$9,724,142	Museums, historical sites, zoos, & parks	5	18	\$185,368
Electronic markets & agents and brokers	18	48	\$1,782,909	Amusements, gambling, and recreation	90	949	\$12,768,528
<b>RETAIL TRADE</b>	534	5551	\$122,288,481	<b>ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICES</b>	324	4365	\$53,902,598
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	64	660	\$22,237,971	Accommodation	76	1235	\$20,340,803
Furniture and home furnishings stores	44	271	\$6,228,708	Food services and drinking places	248	3130	\$33,561,795
Electronics and appliance stores	35	224	\$5,819,603	<b>OTHER SERVICES</b>	317	1395	\$25,179,770
Building material & garden supply stores	64	723	\$18,734,131	Repair and maintenance	111	454	\$11,550,980
Food and beverage stores	37	1036	\$20,269,216	Personal and laundry services	50	237	\$3,361,988
Health and personal care stores	32	194	\$5,852,797	Membership associations & organizations	118	638	\$8,896,543
Gasoline stations	43	485	\$8,537,012	Private households	39	66	\$1,370,259
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	46	241	\$3,149,069	<b>TOTAL GOVERNMENT</b>	115	4482	\$149,635,903
Sporting good, hobby, book, music stores	50	370	\$6,072,336	<b>Local Government</b>	58	3030	\$91,035,302
General merchandise stores	14	900	\$17,524,395	<b>State Government</b>	18	555	\$18,077,862
Miscellaneous store retailers	88	347	\$5,508,520	<b>Federal Government</b>	39	897	\$40,522,739
Nonstore retailers	19	102	\$2,354,723				

\*This data is based on the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) series which compiles data reported by all employers covered under Montana unemployment insurance.

Source: Montana Department of Labor and Industry, Research and Analysis Bureau. (Totals may not add due to nondisclosure of confidential industry data or to rounding.) \*This data is based on the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) series which compiles data reported by all employers covered under Montana unemployment insurance.